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* 4 *Q.*—

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the fact that the object of the Satyagraha, namely, the achievement of liberation for the French Territories, has already been attained, I do not propose to put my question."

Supply of charcoal to the City from Andhra State.

* 5 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have approached the Andhra Government to relax their order banning the export of charcoal from Andhra State to this State?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" In April 1954 there was a sudden rise in the price of charcoal in the Madras City due to certain restrictions imposed by the Andhra Government in order to prevent indiscriminate and illicit felling of trees on a large scale in private forests in Chittoor, Nellore and Cuddapah districts. The Andhra Government were addressed to instruct their Departmental Officers in charge of the issue of permits to see that the flow of charcoal supplies to the City was maintained at 6,000 tons per month without interruption. The Andhra Government agreed to take the necessary steps to maintain undiminished supplies to the City."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" சென்னை நகரத்திற்கு தொடர்ந்து இனி மேலாவது வருவதற்கு சர்க்கார் உத்திரவாதம் செய்யுமா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister of Andhra has also stated that every effort would be made to see that no inconvenience is caused to the people of Madras."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, is charcoal a deficit article in this State and is it an essential article in the State? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, Government in the Forest Department have also been considering measures to supplement the availability of charcoal through disafforestation programme."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Sir, the price of charcoal is rising higher and higher from day-to-day. May I know how the Government are going to tackle this burning problem? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I see from the information available with me that the price has fallen down to the normal level, namely, Rs. 3–10–0 for a bag of 56 lb."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that there is still a ban on the export of charcoal from the district of Chittoor into the State of Madras and will this Government take up the matter with the Government of Andhra? If the

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Government of Andhra are not willing to yield in this matter, will the Government of Madras take up retaliatory measures, such as cutting away the electric supply which is now made available to the Andhra State by this Government? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, as regards the first part of the question, I would like to have notice. The other part of the question, therefore, does not arise."

Protected water-supply to the Badagara Panchayat area.

* 6 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the Government have received a copy of the memorandum, dated 26th July 1954, from the President and Members of the Badagara Panchayat Board, Badagara, North Malabar, requesting the Government to take steps to include the Badagara Panchayat area in the scheme of protected water-supply which the Government are going to undertake soon?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister what steps have been taken to introduce protected water-supply in the Badagara Panchayat Board area? May I also know why Government neglected to introduce protected water-supply to that area so far? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, the Badagara Panchayat Board has been informed that the water-supply schemes are taken up in accordance with the priority fixed in the compendium. This panchayat occupies the hundredth place in that compendium."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" These priorities, Sir, depend upon other considerations and values and the Badagara Panchayat is a major panchayat and has a large population and it has been declared as a filarial area. Therefore, if there is any sensible classification, the claims of Badagara must be fairly high. May I request the Hon. Minister to give high priority to that panchayat on account of these important considerations? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" He is making only a request."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The revision of the compendium is under consideration, Sir. If the Badagara Panchayat is given a higher place, it will be taken up earlier."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, regarding protected water-supply schemes, only at Kozhikode it has been introduced and the work has not been completed. The protected water-supply scheme has not been introduced in many other panchayat areas of the Malabar district. I want to have a definite answer from the Hon. Minister why Badagara and other areas were neglected by the Government so far."